



**KODIAK  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

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CC: JEFF  
ERIC

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January 15, 2001

Joseph L. Perkins  
Commissioner  
Department of Transportation & Public Facilities  
State of Alaska  
3132 Channel Drive  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RECEIVED  
JAN 23 2001  
DOT & PF Commissioner

Dear Commissioner Perkins,

Enclosed with this letter is a resolution of the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce, adopted at our December 08, 2000 Board meeting. This resolution supports the plans outlined in both the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan and the Prince William Sound Transportation Plan wherein it is recommended that the M/V Tustumena would no longer provide service in Prince William Sound. These plans indicate that the M/V Tustumena would be positioned to provide service from the Kenai Peninsula to the communities of Kodiak Island and the communities of Southwest Alaska.

The Chamber Board firmly believes that the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) is an integral part of the efforts of Kodiak and other communities in the Southwest region to promote economic development. We must have frequent service from the AMHS to maintain our connection to the continental surface transportation network. For Kodiak to continue to grow and prosper, a stable ferry system is of utmost importance. To that end, the Chamber Board strongly endorses the plans of the AMHS to remove the M/V Tustumena from Prince William Sound service to focus solely on true ocean going service between Homer, the communities of Kodiak Island and the Southwest region of Alaska.

We strongly urge you to move forward with the plans as recommended in both transportation plans for Southwest Alaska and Prince William Sound. The sooner the recommendations in these plans are implemented, the sooner we can begin to grow both the economy of Kodiak and Southwest Alaska and the traffic on the M/V Tustumena.

Sincerely,

Darren J. Franz  
President

Cc: Senator Alan Austerman  
Representative Gary Stevens  
Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

# KODIAK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*RESOLUTION 00-12-01*

**A resolution of the Board of Directors of the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce urging the State of Alaska to support the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan by providing increased Alaska Marine Highway System service between Kodiak, Kodiak Island communities and the communities of Southwest Alaska and basing the M/V Tustumena in Kodiak.**

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) is a vital transportation link, within Alaska, that provides remote communities with their only connection to the intercontinental surface transportation network; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Marine Highway System currently provides service from Kodiak to the Southwest Alaska communities of Port Lions, Chignik, Cold Bay, King Cove, Sand Point, Akutan, False Pass and Unalaska; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to providing basic transportation service to these communities, the AMHS promotes economic development and tourism opportunities within the Southwest Alaska Region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan recommends that increased service to the Southwest region can be accomplished by having Homer, the closest port to the Southwest region, as the region's link with the intercontinental surface transportation network; and

**WHEREAS**, the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan recommends that the Alaska Marine Highway System M/V Tustumena be dedicated to service solely in Southwest Alaska; implementation of this plan will provide a more interconnected regional system of service; and

**WHEREAS**, having the AMHS M/V Tustumena providing dedicated service to the Southwest region will provide additional communities in the region and the Kodiak Island cities of Ouzinkie and Old Harbor with another basic transportation option, and provide more frequent service to those communities already receiving AMHS service; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Alaska Department of Transportation has performed an economic analysis of the re-routing of the M/V Tustumena that shows improvement of cyclic service between Homer and Kodiak and communities westward; and

**WHEREAS**, that said economic analysis has determined that discontinuance of service between Kodiak and Seward is appropriate and enhanced frequency of service between Homer and westward communities is desirable; so

**NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce that the State of Alaska Department of Transportation is urged to implement that

portion of the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan that recommends the M/V Tustumena begin dedicated service between Homer and Kodiak; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce urges the State of Alaska to base the M/V Tustumena in Kodiak to further expedite and enhance operational opportunities for the M/V Tustumena in providing expanded service to Kodiak Island communities and the westward communities.

Signed this 1 lth day of December 2000.

SIGNED:



Darren J. Franz  
President  
Kodiak Chamber of Commerce

ATTEST:



Genedine D. Taan  
Secretary to the Board  
Kodiak Chamber of Commerce

